

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF APRIL 11TH, 1933.

The Board of Public Works met in the offices of the Governor, Annapolis, on Tuesday, April 11th, 1933.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
John M. Dennis, Treasurer.

The meeting was called for the purpose of considering the award of a contract for the erection of a new University Hospital in Baltimore City. Among those attending the meeting were Mr. George M. Shriver, Doctor A. J. Lomas, Doctor Pincoff, Doctor Shipley, Mr. Crisp of the Office of J. Evans Sperry, Architects, and Mr. Walter N. Kirkman.

Mr. Shriver, speaking for the Hospital, stated that after having called for revised estimates a second time they were able to receive proposals which would bring the cost of the work within the amount appropriated, although there would be some question as to their being able to provide equipment, that is, whether they would have to transfer equipment from the old Hospital and do with that until a later date, and also defer getting some additional equipment which they would like to have.

The Board of Public Works was willing to approve the plans for the work, but deferred authorizing the award of a contract to the lowest bidder, the Consolidated Engineering Company of Baltimore, because of the financial difficulties facing the State of Maryland in the future. It is not a question of the State having funds with which to pay for the work, but of those funds being deposited in banks restricted as to withdrawals, and the State needing all the funds that would be available to it, for current operating expenses, in the banks against which withdrawals may be made.

Mr. Gordy volunteered to confer with the Consolidated Engineering Company as to the possibility of ^{the} work being financed without the necessity for the State to make payments on account of the work during its progress, until such time as the financial situation would be relieved, and this was agreed to by the other members of the Board.

The Governor stated that he had received from Mr. Charles E. Rieman, Chairman of the Banking Commission of Maryland, several bills for expenses incurred by the Commission as follows:

Maryland Penitentiary - printing	-----	\$75.00
Efficiency Publicity Co - "	-----	19.00
Efficiency Publicity Co - "	-----	25.00
Efficiency Publicity Co - "	-----	14.55
Efficiency Publicity Co - "	-----	12.00
Efficiency Publicity Co - "	-----	27.00

and asked if it were possible to have these bills paid out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works. Upon motion duly made and seconded it was ordered that these bills be so paid. The bill of the Penitenitary will be paid direct to that Institution, while the total of the bills of Efficiency Publicity Company, Inc. will be paid to Mr. Charles E. Rieman, who expended the money out of his personal funds for the work.

The Comptroller requested the authority of the Board to charge from the accounts of the Comptroller's Office, Gasoline Tax Fund, certain items which have been standing on the books for quite a length of time, and which have been found impossible of collection, as follows:

William H. Schek - - - - -	\$350.00
Aerogas Company - - - - -	866.62
Western Maryland Oil Co. -	144.04

Upon motion duly made, and seconded, it was decided to authorize the charging off of these uncollectible items.

The following letter from Montrose School for Girls was read and considered:

MONTROSE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

REISTERSTOWN, MD.

1418 Fidelity Bldg.
Baltimore, Md.
March 29, 1933.Mr. J. O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

We are enclosing herewith copies of the following bids which we have received for the construction of walks and steps at our new school and cottage buildings,

H. E. Rutter - Cottage - - - - -	- \$246.00
School Building - flagstone walks and steps laid on concrete and back steps of concrete	752.00
Alternate bid - all concrete	469.00
George W. Arnold - Cottage - - - - -	234.60
School Building - flagstone walks and steps with concrete base. Concrete steps in rear	717.05
Alternate bid - all concrete	454.95

The appropriate walks and steps for the school building are flagstone and it has always been our intention to put that type of walk there.

We have received other bids for this work but they are very much higher than the bids enclosed. We should like to have the authority of the Board of Public Works to award the contract for this work to Mr. Arnold, the lowest bidder, at his bid of \$234.60 for the cottage and \$717.05 for the school building.

I am also enclosing copy of a bid from the Franklin Davis Nurseries, Inc. for the preparation and seeding with lawn grass of the grounds surrounding our cottage and school buildings. You will note that the amount of this bid is \$185.00 but that this Company will allow us \$6.00 per day for the use of a man and team for the necessary harrowing and plowing to get the lawn in condition.

We also have a bid for this work from the above mentioned George W. Arnold in the amount of \$154.00. His bid is not as specific as the bid of the Franklin Davis Nurseries, Inc. and we feel that the latter concern is a much better concern for this character of work. The Arnold bid reads as follows:

"Lawn seeding to cover lawn surface around Meyer and School Buildings. To include seed, preparing ground, sowing, manure and lime and spreading same. Remove trash and stone accumulated by raking. As stated for the sum of \$154.00."

You will note that there is nothing in the Arnold

bid respecting the making of any allowances for the use of a man and team. We should very much like to receive authority from your Board to award this work to the Franklin Davis Nurseries, Inc.

After these walks are in and the lawn is seeded and we get some stand of grass, it will probably be necessary to protect the floors of the school building, which are of Georgia White Pine, by some kind of preparation, such as "Minwax" or some other similar preparation. For the present these floors have been simply oiled and will not stand up so well. Of course with no grass around the building, much dirt is carried in on the floors at this time and more or less ground in and it hardly seems worthwhile to do anything permanently until the conditions around the building are improved.

The cost of treating these floors with some such preparation as herein suggested will probably cost from \$100 to \$150 -- not exceeding the latter figure.

We are availing ourselves of the experience of the school authorities of this City respecting their school floors and would like to have the authority of your Board to go ahead and do this work at the opportune time, within the figures hereinabove mentioned.

Very truly yours,

MONIROSE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

/s/ Clarence A. Tucker.
Treasurer.

CAT:RMC

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was decided to authorize the Institution to proceed with this work in accordance with its recommendations.

The following letter from the State Department of Forestry, dated March 21st, 1933, was read and considered:

STATE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

March 21, 1933.

Mr. J. O. McCusker,
Office of the Comptroller,
Annapolis, Md.

My dear Mr. McCusker:

I enclose herewith application to the Board of Public Works for approval of purchase of a tract of land particularly desirable for rounding out the boundaries of the State Forests. Approval for the purchase of this tract has been granted by the Board of Regents, University of Maryland; the title has been approved by the Attorney General's office, and we would like to consummate the purchase by the 31st of this month, to avoid further tax payment.

With the approval of the Board of Public Works, checks for payment should be made out as follows:

Queen E. Potts, \$152.68, for 72 acres of land, less amount of taxes due thereon.

Tax Collector of Allegany County, \$17.82, for 1932 taxes on the Potts land.

The two checks should be sent to Mr. H. C. Buckingham, District Forester, Court House, Cumberland, Maryland. This leaves a balance in the purchase price of \$175. of \$4.50, withheld to pay taxes for the first three months of 1933, which is estimated, as the tax levy has not yet been made. I hope this transaction can be put through, and I will appreciate it if you will notify me at the time.

Very truly yours,

/s/ F. W. Besley.

State Forester.

FWB:r

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was decided to authorize the purchase of the land outlined, and to make payment therefor in accordance with the State Forester's request.

The Secretary called to the attention of the Board a bill received from the Union Trust Company, for rent of office 312 Union Trust Building, for the month of April, 1933, in the amount of \$54.17 per month.

It was stated that this office is being used by Colonel Janney for the special work he is doing for the Bank Commissioner.

It was decided to authorize the payment of this bill and further bills for the rent of this office until Colonel Janney shall have completed his work for the Bank Commissioner.

The following letter addressed to the Board of Public Works by Mr. Edmund R. Stewart, State Auditor, was read and considered:

STATE AUDITOR

February 20, 1933.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Attention of Mr. J.O. McCusker,
Secretary.

Gentlemen:-

I should like to present the following for your consideration.

At the present time this department is occupying rooms 901 and 902 of the Union Trust Building at the corner of Charles and Fayette Streets, Baltimore, at a rental of \$1,650.00 per annum. This space has become inadequate for the needs of the office and additional space is urgently needed. Consultation with the superintendent of the building indicates that rooms 606 to 609, inclusive, which will be vacated by the Bank Commissioner on March 1st, will be available at a rental of \$2,200.00 per annum, an increase of \$550.00 in annual rental.

If entirely consistent, I should like to have the approval of the Board for the change.

Very truly yours,

.s. Edmund R. Stewart

State Auditor.

ERS.C

It was decided that the State Auditor should have adequate space in which to carry on the work of his office, and his request for the additional space was approved. A lease covering a term of four years beginning May 1st, 1933, at the annual rental of \$2,200.00 was authorized to be executed.

The following letter from Mr. Charles A. Cummins, Vice-President and General Manager of the Consolidated Engineering Company, Inc., dated March 9th, 1933, addressed to Mr. John M. Dennis, was read and considered:

CONSOLIDATED ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.

St. Paul and Franklin Sts.

Baltimore, Maryland.
March 9th, 1933.

Mr. J. M. Dennis,
Baltimore and St. Paul Sts.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Mr. Dennis,

You are perhaps familiar with the fact that the writer represented the State in the matter of settlement of both of the fire losses at the Fifth Regiment Armory, this City, and when the first loss was finally settled General Reckord gave the business to Carl Schmidt, who is an officer in one of the State Military Units.

The second loss however, is one requiring the services of a large engineering and construction company, and I think the State should give serious consideration to our Company at this time. We would certainly appreciate it.

You understand that in the recent loss we had to allow quite a sum for depreciation, but in spite of this we stand ready to restore this loss at the actual cost of labor and material, plus a fee, guaranteeing not to exceed the amount of money recovered from the Insurance Companies, all savings to revert to the State.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter from General Reckord which explains his feelings regarding the subject.

Thanking you in advance for any effort that you can consistently make in our behalf, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

CONSOLIDATED ENGINEERING COMPANY

/s/ Chas. A. Cummins
Vice President & General Manager.

CAC:imt
encl.

It was stated that the work about which Mr. Cummins had written was already taken care of and that settlement with the Insurance Companies had been arranged, and plans and specifications for the rebuilding of the Armory were underway.

The following letter from the State Accident Fund was read and considered:

STATE ACCIDENT FUND

March 3, 1933.

Board of Public Works,
Union Trust Building,
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:-

We are listing below policyholders of the State Accident Fund, who have gone through Receivership or Bankruptcy and who have made final payments on their accounts. This list shows the number of the policy, the name of the policyholder and the balance due after the final payments have been made as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3038	E. L. Fooks	\$113.30
3173	Miller Brothers Furniture Co.Inc.	15.70
3269	The Reid Company	582.39
4477	Gustav B. Smith	535.21
4662	G. G. Bowman Coal Company, Inc.	24.70
4915	Robert W. Scott	46.61
3157	Den-Mar Mobile Co.Inc.	32.19
		<u>\$1,350.10</u>

We have been advised by the Attorney-General that these amounts can be immediately charged off without further procedure, but we should advise you of our having done it, therefore, the charges have been put through our books.

Hoping you will find this regular.

Yours very truly,

STATE ACCIDENT FUND

/s/ James E. Green, Jr.
Superintendent.

JEG/IH

It was decided that no action was necessary in the matter because of the advice received by the State Accident Fund from the Attorney General that the Superintendent of the Fund had authority to charge off the accounts without further procedure. The letter addressed to the Board of Public Works was considered merely as advice to the Board of what had been done by the State Accident Fund.

(See page 266 - (Letter of State Accident Fund-May 24, 1933-
authority for charging off uncollectible accounts.) *min of May 31st 1933.*

The following letter from the Miners Hospital, Frostburg, Maryland was read and considered:

THE MINERS HOSPITAL

FROSTBURG MD.

February 28, 1933.

Mr. J. O. McCusker, Sec'y,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Sir:-

As requested I am enclosing a list of accounts, with dates, names and amounts, which we consider very doubtful, but not a total loss. I understand the State Auditor requested Superintendent Lint to charge off a certain amount each year. This we have been doing. We have a bad debt account on our ledger and when any of these charged off accounts are paid they are credited to same.

We have received quite a sum in the past and expect to get some payments on the 1932 charge off. Quite a list of these have been handed to our attorney with instruction to collect.

We are still dunning people for account charged off since 1927.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ C. S. Jeffries.
President.

The request that the accounts involved, aggregating \$3,560.76, be charged from the books of the Hospital was approved.

The following letter from Mr. John H. Petty, Mayor of the City of Laurel, Maryland, to Mr. John M. Dennis, State Treasurer, was read and considered:

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF
LAUREL MARYLAND

John H. Petty, Mayor.

April 8, 1933.

Hon. John M. Dennis, Treasurer,
State of Maryland,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Sir:-

I am requested by the City Council to negotiate the purchase of \$41,000.00 of City of Laurel Bonds of 1941; this being the amount now held by the State of Maryland; said arrangement to be as of July 1st, 1933, on which date we will have sufficient money to redeem the same.

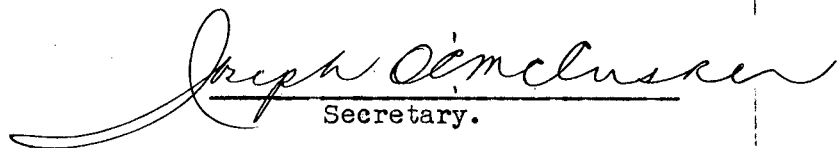
Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter,
I am

Very truly yours,

/s/ John H. Fetty
Mayor.

JHF/F

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.


Secretary.